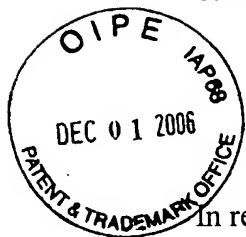


IFW

03500.103265.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: )  
YOSHIFUMI TAKEYAMA )  
: Group Art Unit: 1753  
Application No.: 10/569,203 )  
: )  
Int'l. Filing Date: October 15, 2004 )  
: )  
371(c) Date: February 23, 2006 )  
: )  
For: PHOTOVOLTAIC ELEMENT )  
AND METHOD OF PRODUCING :  
PHOTOVOLTAIC ELEMENT ) November 30, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents, other than the U.S. patent documents, are enclosed.

Japan 11-77348, Japan 10-335688, Japan 10-65192, Japan 9-199746, Japan 8-139349, Japan 7-321353, Japan 6-196743, Japan 3-239376, Japan 3-239375, U.S. 6,121,542, U.S. 6,114,185, U.S. 5,942,048, and U.S. 5,667,596 were cited in the International Search Report which issued in the corresponding international application. A copy of the International Search Report and a copy of the Written Opinion are enclosed.

The following documents are discussed at the following pages of the specification:

<u>Documents</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
U.S. 4,260,429	2
Japan 7-321353	3
Japan 9-18034	3
Japan 10-65192	3
Japan 3-239375	3
Japan 8-139349	4, 6
Japan 11-77348	4
Japan 11-243224	33
Japan 2001-71171	37
Japan 7-321354	42

English-language abstracts for Japanese documents are also enclosed.

The following U.S. patents are believed to be in the same patent family as the following Japanese patent documents:

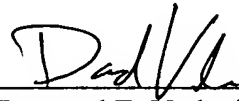
<u>U.S. Patents</u>	<u>Japanese Patents</u>
U.S. 6,388,187	Japan 11-243224
U.S. 6,121,542	Japan 10-65192
U.S. 6,114,185	Japan 11-77348
U.S. 5,942,048	Japan 7-321353
U.S. 5,759,291	Japan 9-18034
U.S. 5,667,596	Japan 8-139349

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) is believed due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicant requests that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

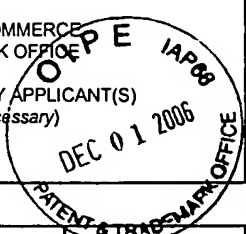
Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dad/Va", is written over a horizontal line.

Damond E. Vadnais  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No.: 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.103265.</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/569,203</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>YOSHIFUMI TAKEYAMA</b>			
				371(c) DATE <b>February 23, 2006</b>		GROUP <b>1753</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,388,187	05/14/02	Takeyama, et al.	136	244	
		6,121,542	09/19/00	Shiotsuka, et al.	136	256	
		6,114,185	09/05/00	Tsuzuki, et al.	438	51	
		5,942,048	08/24/99	Fujisaki, et al.	136	256	
		5,759,291	06/02/98	Ichinose, et al.	136	256	
		5,667,596	09/16/97	Tsuzuki, et al.	136	256	
		4,260,429	04/07/81	Moyer	136	256	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2001-71171	03/21/01	Japan			Abstract
		11-243224	09/07/99	Japan			Abstract
		11-77348	03/23/99	Japan			Abstract
		10-335688	12/18/98	Japan			Abstract
		10-65192	03/06/98	Japan			Abstract
		9-199746	07/31/97	Japan			Abstract
		9-18034	01/17/97	Japan			Abstract
		8-139349	05/31/96	Japan			Abstract
		7-321354	12/08/95	Japan			Abstract
		7-321353	12/08/95	Japan			Abstract
		6-196743	07/15/94	Japan			Abstract
		3-239376	10/24/91	Japan			Abstract
		3-239375	10/24/91	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1